our fourfooted friends

Animal Rescue League of Boston • Winter 1992

Animal Rescue League of Boston

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Our Fourfooted Friends

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American Humane Association
Denver, Colorado

World Society for the Protection of Animals
Boston, MA (Regional Office)

Winter 1992
Volume 89, No. 4

COVER:

Snug in His Bed — This basket of holiday cheer is "Sam," owned by photographer Vicki Maynard of Peabody.

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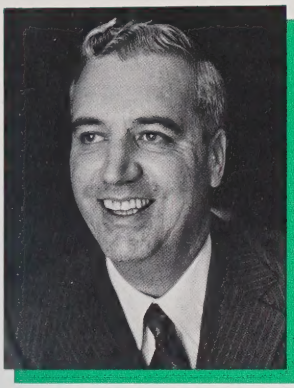


Arthur G. Slade, *President*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Your Opinions Count

As many of you know, we recently sent a survey to a substantial number of our members and friends to obtain their thoughts and opinions about the various humane services we currently provide for animals, as well as their ideas of other areas of activity that may be needed in our work with animals.

It is probably not surprising that adoption services, cruelty investigations and shelter for lost and abandoned animals were the top vote-getters when it came to services listed on the survey form. This is certainly in line with our emphasis on direct, hands-on approach to animal services. We had a strong feeling that this would be the general thrust of opinion, but it is extremely helpful to have this confirmation.

It is interesting to note that educational programs for children and pets and pet-related services for older people were somewhat below the first three items, but they had more or less equal interest among the folks who responded. In a good number of cases, people expressed equal support and interest in all service areas.

We also asked people to comment about issues and services of interest to them for now and the future, which were not listed on the survey. Again, many of the interests were expected and in line with national and regional responses to such questions. The issue of greatest importance was the need for continued spaying and neutering of pets and the importance of low-cost spaying and neutering services. The fact that animal shelters are seeing a decided reduction in the number of unwanted puppies each year is testimony that spaying and neutering along with public awareness is having a positive result. Unfortunately, it is not true when it comes to the continued overpopulation of cats and kittens.

The need for stiffer penalties for abuse and neglect of animals was one of the most frequent suggestions which reflect the rising incidence of cruelty complaints being handled by our law enforcement officers. Other comments mentioned interest in pets for the mentally and physically handicapped, education of landlords to allow pets in housing for the elderly, pet insurance, dog obedience training, a weekly TV adoption program, pet visits to nursing homes and hospitals, advice about overweight pets and saving feral cats. These are but a few of the most frequent comments and there was a total of 57 categories of comments and areas of interest.

A few remarks related to services we presently have such as rescue of animals in trees and other distress and a Christmas program for working horses. Still others related to special interests such as pet sitting referrals, tattoos for pets, legislation to prohibit animals riding in the back of pick-up trucks, foster care of pets, humane mousetrap education and relief programs for disaster area pets.

There was also a suggestion that pooper-scoopers with the League's logo be given out with each pet adoption.

All of your thoughts, comments and suggestions have been extremely helpful in guiding our plans for the future and all of us at the League thank you most sincerely for your help and extend to each of you our warm wishes for the holiday season. May the year ahead be filled with happiness and good fortune for you. Please keep in mind the words of our founder, Anna Harris Smith, that "Kindness Uplifts the World."

Body Language

Is your best friend trying to tell you something?

If you'd like to improve communications between you and your pets, instead of talking to the animals, why not try listening for a change? And the best way to tune in to their moods and needs may be to listen with your eyes, as well as your ears.

Dogs, cats and other non-verbal animals use their own special body language, postures, and facial expressions to express a wide variety of emotions, attitudes, intentions and even impending actions. By learning to interpret the signs, you can not only improve communications with your pet, but also be better prepared to handle encounters with strange animals.

Active submission

A "play bow"

Passive submission

The following guidelines on how to interpret dog and cat behavior are part of a new manual on direct animal care prepared by a staff action team at the League, with special consultation on the "body language" section from Alan Cunningham of the League's Pine Ridge Center in Dedham, who has worked extensively in the rehabilitation of abused animals, and dog trainer and author Gail Fisher. Members of the direct animal care team include Bill Araujo, Judie Cooper, Dr. Jill Bogdan, Beth Anderson and Kelly MacQueen.

The manual was prepared as a guide and reference to supplement the training of new staff members, in order to ensure the best possible care for animals in the League's custody. Learning to interpret body posture and expressions is a skill crucial to the successful evaluation and handling of strange animals.

Dogs

Dogs use almost every part of their bodies to communicate. In evaluating a dog, the manual advises looking at the entire animal, including face (muzzle, mouth, eyes and ears), body (posture, stance, hair or hackles on spine), the carriage and movement of the tail, and vocalizations such as whines, whimpers, growls or barks.

In general, postures that move forward or upward to demonstrate increased stature and size of the dog should be interpreted as aggressive; postures that move downward and backward, decreasing the stature and size of the dog are considered submissive, subordinate or fearful. Some dogs display elements of both postures and may be unstable or unpredictable. Here are more detailed descriptions of common canine body postures, and what they tell us about the animal.

Relaxed (Neutral) Posture: Body is relaxed with head held high, ears up, but not forward. Mouth may be closed or open, with tongue hanging out or pulled in. Tail hangs down at rest. This dog is relaxed and comfortable.

Alert Posture: Dog stands tall on his toes, with ears erect and forward, mouth usually closed, or it may open and close, and tail held almost straight out from body. Hairs along the neck and base of tail (hackles) may be slightly raised, and attention is focused. This is described as "intention behavior," a prelude to something else such as barking, chasing, investigating or, recognizing there is nothing special to be interested in, relaxing and returning to a neutral posture.

Offensive Threat Posture: Dog stands tall on his toes and leans forward, ears are up and forward, and hackles are raised. Corners of the mouth are brought forward, with the top of the muzzle wrinkled, exposing the teeth. Eyes are fixed, and the tail is up over the back and may be wagging stiffly. This is a dangerous dog, aggressive and ready to attack.

Defensive Threat Posture: Body is lowered, with the dog leaning back, away from the threat. Ears are back, nose wrinkled, and corners of the mouth are pulled back with teeth usually exposed. Pupils are dilated, giving the eyes a glassy look. Hackles are up, and tail is down and may be tucked under. Most likely, the dog is growling. This dog is dangerous, but is frightened and will bite only if he cannot get away. If cornered, he will attack, but would prefer to run. Dogs in a defensive threat posture can be unstable and unpredictable.

Active Submission: The dog's body is lowered, and he may grovel and paw. Ears are back, forehead is smooth, and eyes are averted. The corners of the mouth are drawn back in a "submissive grin." The tail is lowered and may be tucked, or may wag. The dog may lick his lips, try to lick its superior, or may submissively urinate.

Passive Submission: The dog is rolled over on its back, with a facial expression similar to active submission. The tail may be tucked tight against the belly and, again, the dog may submissively urinate.

Stress: Appears similar to submissive posture, with ears and corners of mouth drawn back, tail down or tucked, and posture lowered. In addition, dog may pant rapidly and/or lick lips, and paws may leave wet footprints on the floor due to sweating.

Cats

While an angrily swishing tail is the most obvious sign of feline emotion, other visible clues to a cat's mood include expanded pupils, which indicate excitement, rage or fear; ears pointing backward, a sign of fear; flattened ears with tail carried straight up and tip hanging over, part of the fighting posture; or blinking eyes, a sign of contentment.

Friendly cats generally have their ears pricked forward, their eyes wide open, and their muscles relaxed. An angry cat will press its ears back, hunch up, ruffle its fur and walk on stiff legs like a Wild West gunfighter. Other specific body cues to look for include:

Eyes: Slit pupils indicate alertness or confidence; dilated pupils are a sign of fear.

Tail: A tail carried straight out behind the animal signals alertness; the same position, or curled up and forward, indicates relaxation. If the tail is pulled down to the ground, the cat is in an offensive threat position; if it is curled into an inverted "V," it means a defensive threat. A tail curled around the body indicates submission.

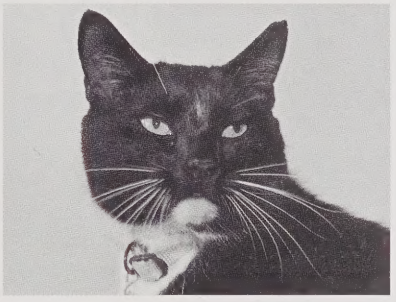
Body Posture: A relaxed, moderately alert cat carries its head up, and its back straight and level. If the hind quarters are elevated and the legs are straightened, the cat is in an offensive threat position. If it lies in a crouched position with chest and head close to the ground (head may be held to the side), the cat is defensive, and will be a threat if it feels cornered or trapped.

Vocalizations: A purr can indicate either a relaxed cat or one that is mildly anxious, purring as a means of self-assurance. A cat that meows is seeking attention, making an announcement, or simply indicating frustration. Growls, snarls and hisses mean just what they sound like, a prelude to combat. Some sounds are used only in cat-to-cat conversations, such as a "call," which is a closed-mouth loud murmur used by females to indicate a readiness to mate, and a "chirr," which is a rolled meow used by a mother cat to call kittens, or in a friendly approach by two cats.

Interpreting these broad categories of dominant and submissive body language, as defined by animal behaviorists, can be highly subjective, points out author Myrna M. Milani, D.V.M., in her book *The Body Language and Emotion of Dogs*. For instance, "for every example we use to describe dependent, or submissive, behavior, we can find owners who interpret the identical behavior as proof of their pet's devotion." This includes whining, licking, rolling over and other similar beseeching behavior. "Some animal behaviors and postures," she notes, can be traced to "what the owner's body language communicates to their pets.

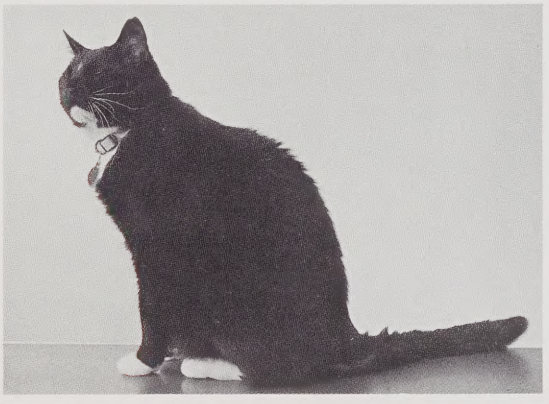
"Interpreting our dogs' (and cats') body language displays, assigning them emotional motivations, and then responding to them, offers us infinite opportunities to temper and rework our relationships with our pets and forge a solid yet flexible bond. The ultimate body language display," the author concludes, "is our willingness to change, and change our dogs if necessary, to create such a bond."

Relaxed, neutral posture



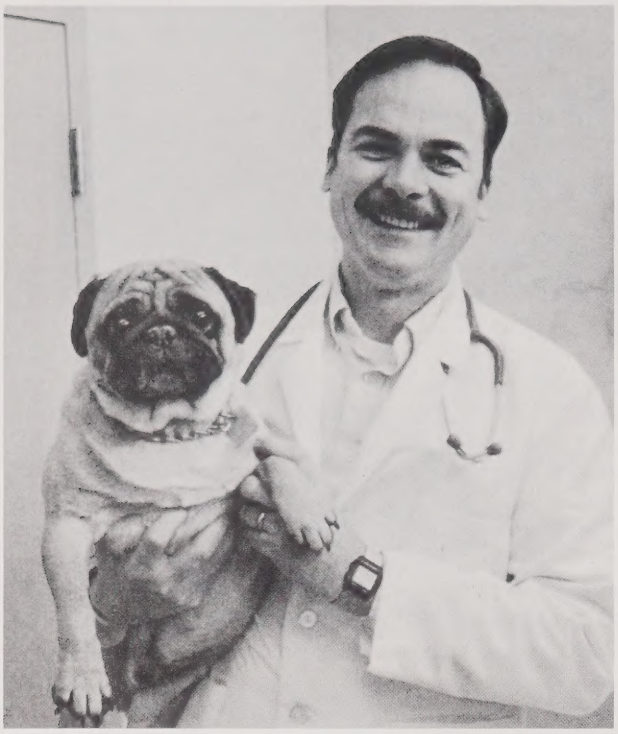
Alert (slit pupils)

Defensive threat posture



Relaxed, moderately alert

Fearful (dilated pupils)



A Veterinary Update:

Rx for Pets: Take Two Good Meals . . .

By Edward A. Leonard, D.V.M.

When a child is sick, most mothers or other caregivers almost instinctively coax the patient to try a little juice or toast or, better yet, that universally efficacious medicinal compound, chicken soup.

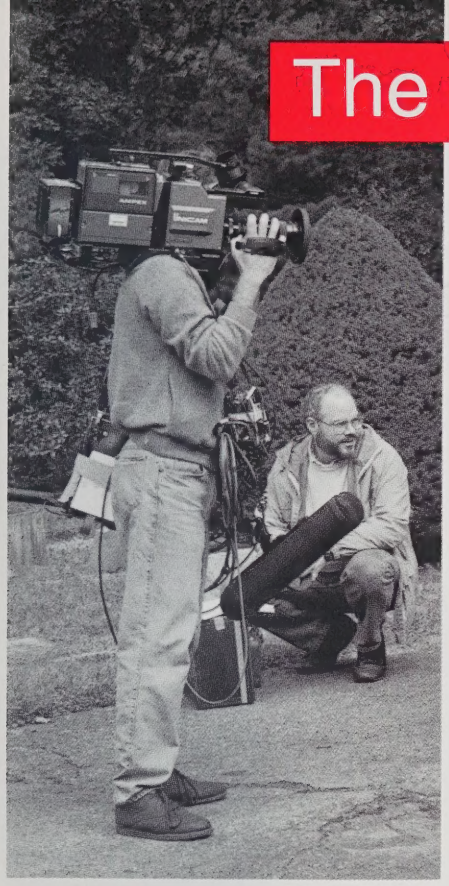
When a dog or cat is sick or injured, however, many pet owners tend to accept loss of appetite as an automatic side effect, assuming that the animal is simply "off his feed" and will return to normal eating patterns when it feels better.

This can be a highly dangerous assumption. We now know that nutritional needs increase, rather than decrease, during an illness or after an injury. In both animals and humans, recent studies have shown that the metabolic rate — that is, the rate at which the body absorbs nutrients — accelerates due to an increase in certain hormones that are released by the body in response to injuries, like bone fractures or burns, and stresses, such as pain, cold or fear. This "hypermetabolism," as it is called, can deplete the body of stored up protein, leading to malnutrition which, in turn, makes the animal more susceptible to infections.

What does this mean to the average pet owner? In the case of serious illness or injury, it has been shown that enteral feeding (intravenous or tube feeding), begun as early as possible, can prevent these complications from occurring. So it is most important that a veterinarian be consulted if loss of appetite persists for more than a day or two, especially if the animal is vomiting or lethargic.

If your pet is simply experiencing a minor digestive upset, which could be the result of anything from a bedtime raid on the garbage cans to a psychological trauma caused by a move or a change in the household routine, your veterinarian may recommend that you coax it to eat by offering more frequent but smaller portions, or try to tempt it with foods that are easier to digest than normal dog or cat food. Some frequently recommended alternatives include broth, baby food, or (a cup of) boiled rice and (¼ cup of) cottage cheese. Fresh water, of course, should be available at all times.

For more serious illnesses, there are now a variety of prescription dietary foods available that have been scientifically formulated to provide the nutrients required by dogs and cats suffering from specific illnesses. These include diets designed to deal with such problems as bloat in dogs, FLS (feline urologic syndrome) in cats, and health-threatening obesity in both dogs and cats. Some special diets, however, are only available with a prescription from your veterinarian.



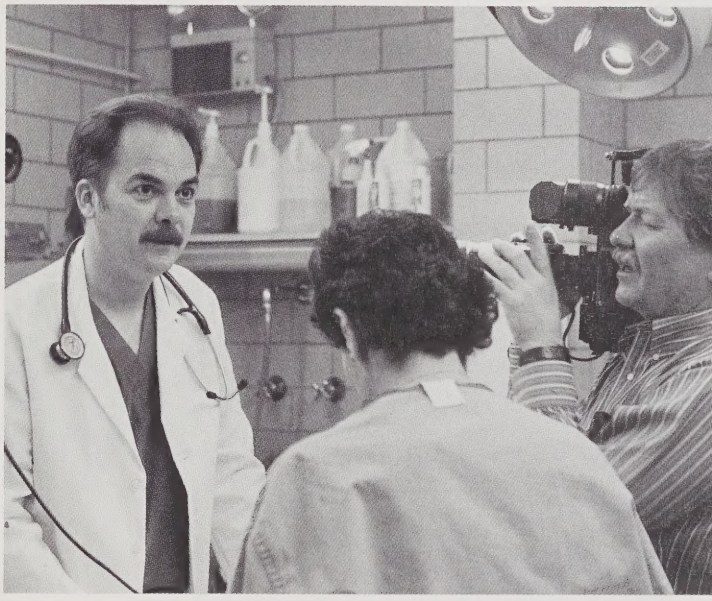
The Making of the League Video

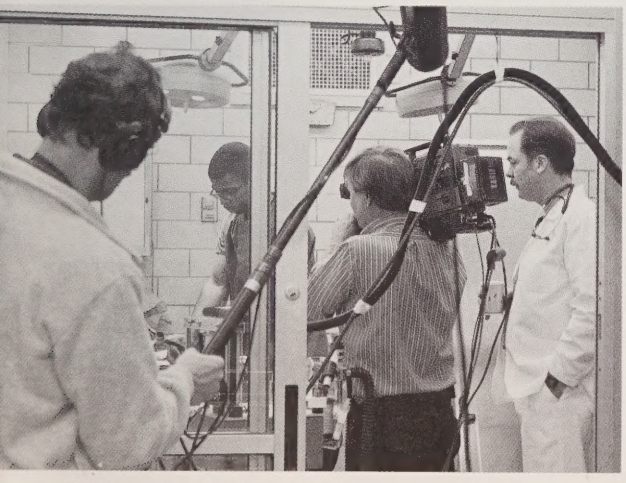
The League staff had a little taste of Hollywood recently when a film crew from Active Video, Inc. in Waltham buzzed through the Boston and Dedham shelters. The crew was filming a video about the League and its programs and services. The video will be used to educate the public about the League's work and to help in public relations, staff orientation and fundraising programs. Public service announcements for local television use will also be produced from footage shot for the video.

Each scheduled day of filming proceeded without a hitch. The crew and producer Anne Smith were able to capture every scene or type of person or activity that they had hoped for, and some they had not even thought of. Many situations that had not been scripted fell into place spontaneously, and that footage was even better than what had originally been planned. The film crew even had the opportunity to respond to the scene of a rescue where League staff treated an injured Boston Police horse (see Newsfront, this issue).

The film crew and the producer repeatedly commented on the high level of professionalism and commitment they observed on the part of the League staff. Involvement in a project such as this was a new experience to most of the League personnel and they all enjoyed the glimpse behind the camera.

With filming complete, music and special effects were incorporated in the final editing stage, and the video made its debut on the big screen — to rave reviews — at the League's staff holiday party.

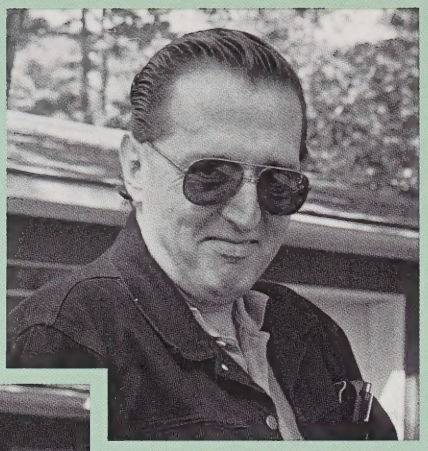




Producer Anne Smith (seated left in photo at right) directs shooting of scenes in the outpatient veterinary clinic, and outdoors at Pine Ridge Animal Center in Dedham.

Employee Ap

A Salute to th



Jim Pernavas, Virginia DeCourcey and Mike Thomas (top to bottom) received twenty-year pins from Arthur G. Slade (right).

More than 100 staff members, family and friends gathered at the League's summer school in Cataumet, Sunday, September 20, for a day of games, prizes, picnicking, outdoor fun and good fellowship. Held on one of those perfect gold and blue autumn days seen only on Cape Cod, the League's first annual Employee Appreciation Day was a rousing success, from the moment the first arrivals were draped with welcoming leis to the weary but happy bus ride home. The day just flew by, but everyone wished it could last forever!

It was an active day for those who attended, with a chance to try their sleuthing skills in the scavenger hunt, demonstrate athletic prowess in the "silly Olympics," or top it all off with a few quarts of whipped cream and blueberries in the pie-eating contest. The emotional highlight of the day, however, came with the presentation of service awards to the staff members whose dedication and compassion are the very soul of the League.

Ike was in the White House, and Charley was still riding the MTA past Scollay Square station when a young woman from Dorchester came to the League's shelter, then on Albany Street, to look for her missing cat and decided, on the spur of the moment, to apply for a job. "I thought it might just be interesting," recalls Gloria Holbrook, who was presented with a gold pin for more than thirty-five years of service, the longest term achieved by any current staff member. Now working in membership, she devoted 11 years, from 1960 to 1971, to putting on marionette performances in schools throughout the state as part of the League's humane education program.

The second highest award was presented to Arthur E. Penny who joined the League in 1960 as a bookkeeping assistant and has served as director of administration since 1964. He accepted a pin for over thirty years of service and followed his acceptance with a surprise presentation to League president Arthur G. Slade for over twenty-five years of service. Mr. Slade joined the staff in 1964 as director of operations and became president in 1977.

The second twenty-five-year gold pin went to Jim Sears who, as night ambulance driver, has been handling rescues and emergencies for the League since 1965.

Team spirit wins a trophy in the silly Olympics!

Naomi Ratner, 4, shares a secret with Tyler Hiltz, 6 months.

reciation Day

League's MVPs

The four staff members with over a quarter century of service also received handsome wooden plaques to commemorate the occasion. Gift certificates were presented to all of those with five years or more of service.

Decades of Service

Honored for more than twenty years of service were Virginia DeCourcey who joined the Boston staff in 1968; Peter Faux and Jim Pernavas who have worked in the Boston shelter and rescue program since 1970 and 1971, respectively; and Mike Thomas, supervisor of the Pine Ridge Cemetery, who joined the staff in 1970.

Other staff members who were honored with service pins for the following years of cumulative service include:

15 Years

Alan Borgal, Lori Crockwell, Georgia Dimitri, and Helen Henderson from the Boston headquarters; and Alfred Laconte, from the Dedham branch.

10 Years

Edward Leonard, Boston; Lynda Brogden, Brewster; Frank Carmichael and Robert Walsh, Dedham.

5 Years

From Boston: Terrie Bierig-Neyland, Janice Bosworth, Gerry Cole, Lynne Draper, Robert Kennedy, Laura MacFeeley, Ray Orlando, Edward Powers, Raschel Shophet-Ratner, and Thomas White.

From the branches: Sandra Luppi, Brewster; Alan Cunningham, Dedham; and Jean Goodwin, Salem.

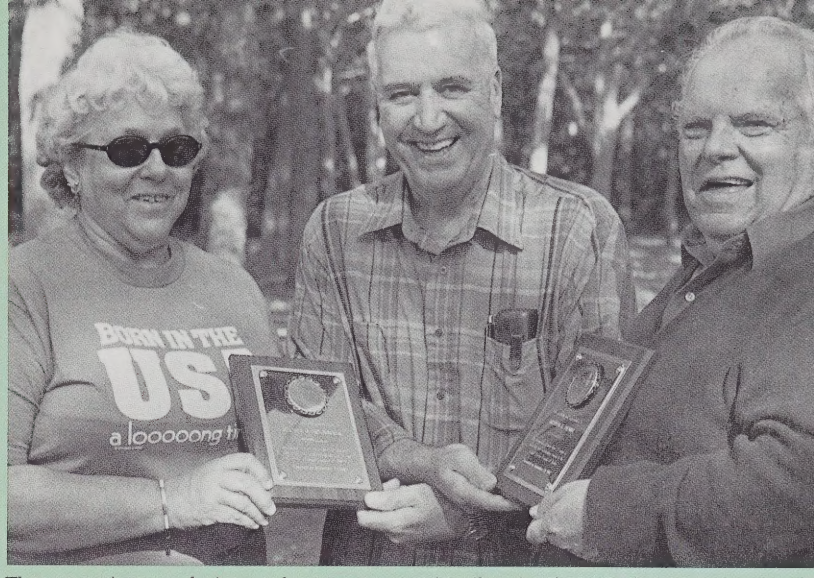
1 Year

Boston: Bill Araujo, Frank Bracken, Julie Brothers, Jack Burns, Judy Cooper, Sandra Dustin, Steve Giuva, Connie Hicks-Taylor, Denise Marsolais, Alfred Martin, Brian Manning, Bill Menton, Anne Quill, Trish Taylor, Peggy Turchette, Sheila Vince, Bill Whitsett, Glen Williams, and Joe Winslow.

Brewster: Beth Anderson, Melinda Lary, and Dawn Lee.

Dedham: Daniel Miller, Terry Ober, and Michelle Testa.

Salem: Lisa Johnson, Janice McMinn, Paula Ouimette, Michelle Regan, and Kelly Turner.



The top service award winners share some memories: (l to r): Gloria Holbrook, Arthur G. Slade and Arthur Penny, who together have given over 90 years of service to the League.

Time to relax at the picnic tables!

Terrie Bierig-Neyland and Bob Walsh work up a lather in the pie-eating contest.

A Banner Day at the Fair

A great turnout, a wide assortment of taste treats, and an unusually large number of fine donated treasures combined to make this year's annual fair the best one ever. Under the enthusiastic and spirited direction of cochairmen Jane Marshall of Boston and Helen and Earl Wentzel of Weymouth, the event raised over $7,000 for our animal friends.

In addition to bidding on auction items and browsing for bargains, fairgoers also enjoyed demonstrations by the Boston Mounted Police and K-9 Units, or — like Alec Rothman, 14 months, and mother Sally, from Belmont (right) — got acquainted with some of the League's fourfooted guests on tours of the shelter.

A Word to the Weather-wise

Unusually low autumn temperatures had people gearing up for winter early this year. Many people, however, may be quick to winterize their houses but may forget to take steps to protect their animals from winter's hazards.

Pets that normally live outdoors are the most vulnerable. Generally, dogs and cats are happier and healthier if they can stay inside with the family during cold weather. If your dog must be kept in a doghouse, a sturdy, dry and warm shelter is essential. A proper doghouse should be elevated slightly off the cold ground, be well insulated, and have either a door flap or a wind block at the entrance. The shelter should be equipped with clean, warm bedding and fresh water which must be checked frequently to make sure it has not frozen over.

Dogs and cats should never be allowed to roam outdoors unsupervised, but this is especially critical in winter when small animals can easily become trapped in heavy snow or snowdrifts, or fall through the ice on partially frozen streams or ponds. Every winter the League is summoned scores of times to come to the rescue of animals that fall through the ice or become stranded on ice floes.

When pets are taken out for supervised excursions, a thin coating of petroleum jelly on each paw will prevent irritation from salt or sand spread on icy sidewalks. Keep a towel handy by the door to wipe off wet feet and fur after outdoor jaunts. Older animals and short-haired dogs can also benefit from the added protection of a sweater.

Pet cats that are allowed to roam free face an added risk. Cats will often seek warmth by crawling under the hood of a recently driven car. Before starting your car, try to get in the habit of knocking on the hood, or blowing the horn, to alert any sleeping animals. You may save a life!

Fatal Attraction

Another potentially fatal winter hazard that deserves special mention is automobile antifreeze. Both dogs and cats find the sweet taste of spilled antifreeze very appetizing, but the ingestion of even a small amount of this liquid can lead to kidney damage and death. Check your radiator hose for leaks and always wipe up antifreeze spills immediately. If you suspect that an animal has lapped up antifreeze, seek veterinary attention right away.

Pet Rabbits

New England winters call for extra caution on the part of anyone who normally keeps pet rabbits outdoors in a hutch. In proper housing and protected from drafts, rabbits can be safely kept outdoors in temperatures ranging from 40° to 85° F, but the recommended average constant temperature is from 65° to 70° F. Rabbits that are kept outdoors and exposed to extreme climate changes, or to the extremely low New England winter temperatures, are at a higher risk of succumbing to disease agents because their body resistance has been lowered, according to Dr. Raschel Shophet-Ratner, a League veterinarian.

Additional factors that should be considered when keeping rabbits outdoors in winter include an increased need for nutrients in cold weather, and the risk of dehydration which can occur if the only drinking water available has frozen over.

"If it is too cold outdoors for you, then it is probably too cold for your pets," Dr. Shophet-Ratner warns. "Be considerate of your animals, and make it a safe winter for all of us," she urges.

NEWSFRONT

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

A FRESH START FOR "SARGE"

League veterinarian Dr. Sheila Vince (left) bids farewell to "Sarge," now renamed "Ziggy," as he departs for his new home with Amy Wexler and Stephen Gilbert of Hopkinton. This plucky four-month-old shepherd puppy arrived at the League in early September, thin, ill and suffering from a broken leg. Dr. Vince and other League staff members worked with the puppy for several weeks to treat and rehabilitate him in preparation for his adoption at the end of October.

★★★★★★★★★★★★

LEAGUE APPOINTS NEW SHELTER MANAGER

Norman E. Hooben of Norton joined the League staff in October as manager of the Boston shelter, replacing Katherine Dwyer who left to move to Texas. A former Master Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, he brings to his new position 21 years of experience with the U.S. Air Force Veterinary Service in the area of veterinary public health and zoonoses control.

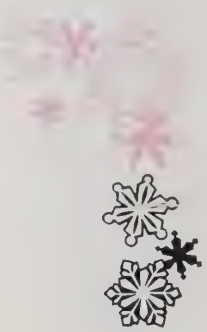
★★★★★★★★★★★★

WSPA MOUNTS ANIMAL RELIEF EFFORTS IN BOSNIA

A World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) team investigating the impact of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina on livestock, pets and wildlife has reported the threat of a rabies outbreak. Unusually large numbers of wild animals descending from their mountain habitats and mingling with hundreds of stray dogs in Bosnian cities and towns could trigger a widespread outbreak of rabies if preventive measures are not taken, according to John Walsh, assistant director general of WSPA. Walsh said that in the town of Mostar alone as many as 800 dogs are roaming the streets, foraging for food. Intense Serbian shelling has prevented any efforts to round up the animals. He reported that WSPA will be organizing relief shipments of veterinary medicine, including anti-rabies vaccine, to aid the country's struggling veterinary service.

HORSING AROUND FOR THE HOLIDAYS

League members and friends are invited to join the fun Thursday, December 17, when jolly St. Nick makes his yearly holiday visit to city, state and M.D.C. police horses at 11 a.m. in front of Faneuil Hall. As part of the League's annual Christmas Dinner for Horses, a tradition since 1913, Santa will treat the police horses to carrots, apples, new blankets and Blue Seal horse feed, while similar gifts will be delivered by League agents to other working horses in stables throughout the area.



TWO FOWLS WIN A FIRST!

Lynda Brogden, manager of the League's Cape Cod Branch in Brewster, presents a trophy to Ashby Connors, 7½, of Dennis, whose pet chickens "Fluffy" and "Snicker" won Best of Show in the annual Cranberry Harvest Festival pet show.

★★★★★★★★★★★★

EUROPE SETS BAN ON ANIMAL TESTING FOR COSMETICS

The European Community agreed in early November to ban cosmetic companies from testing their products on animals, beginning in 1998. Viewed as a partial victory for animal welfare groups, the decision allows for postponement of the ban for at least two years if a majority of EC states feel it is impossible to find alternative testing methods for any cosmetic ingredient before the deadline. As many as 50,000 rabbits, rats, mice and other animals are killed or maimed in the EC alone each year in safety tests by cosmetics firms on shampoos, sun-screens and other beauty products, according to an Associated Press report on the decision.

★★★★★★★★★★★★

A SPEEDY RESPONSE TO "RADAR" ALERT

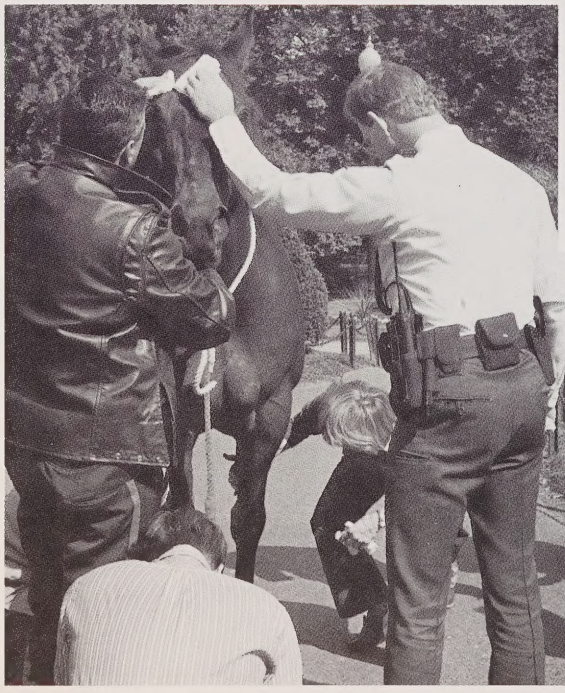
Boston mounted police officers struggle to raise their fallen patrol partner "Radar" to his feet (left) and comfort their injured colleague (right) while Dr. Edward A. Leonard (kneeling, r.), director of veterinary medicine at the League, prepares to administer treatment to the horse which suffered cuts and bruises in an accident in the Public Garden. Spooked when his saddle slipped as his rider attempted to mount him on the Tremont Street side of Boston Common, Radar had galloped across the Common and through the Garden where he fell to the ground semi-conscious after getting entangled in an iron chain. Though he required a few stitches, Radar was "doing just fine" according to Dr. Leonard, and was expected to be back on duty shortly after his cuts and bruises heal.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★

FOR HOLIDAY GIVING

The Company of Cats, twenty contemporary stories of family cats, edited by Michael J. Rosen, with photographs by Tony Mendoza and cartoons by Roz Chast. The perfect gift for the cat lover on your list, this book contains short stories focusing on feline fellowship by such famous writers as Alice Adams, Bobbie Ann Mason, Roald Dahl, Doris Lessing and other contemporary authors, all of whom have contributed their work free of charge. All royalties and a portion of the profits will be donated to animal welfare agencies around the country. Doubleday, $20.00.

★★★★★★★★



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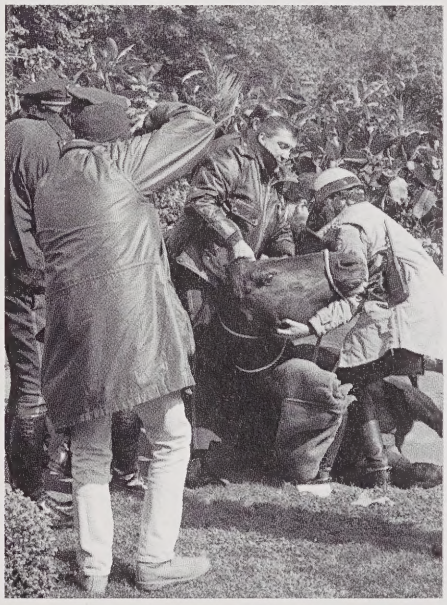
BITING THE HAND THAT FEEDS THEM

Cornell University veterinarians are conducting a dietary study with "bad" dogs in the Ithaca, N.Y. area, hoping to determine whether lower protein dog food may have a calming effect on aggressive dogs. The study is being done at Cornell's Animal Behavior Clinic and the participants are pet dogs in the neighborhood that have exhibited dominance-related aggression, including biting, toward their owners or family members when the dogs feel their status has been threatened. The study will test the theory that aggression in dogs is related to excessive protein consumption.

★★★★★



PETS IN THE PICTURE

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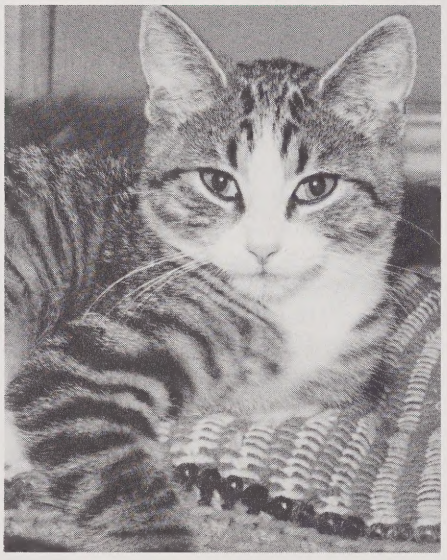

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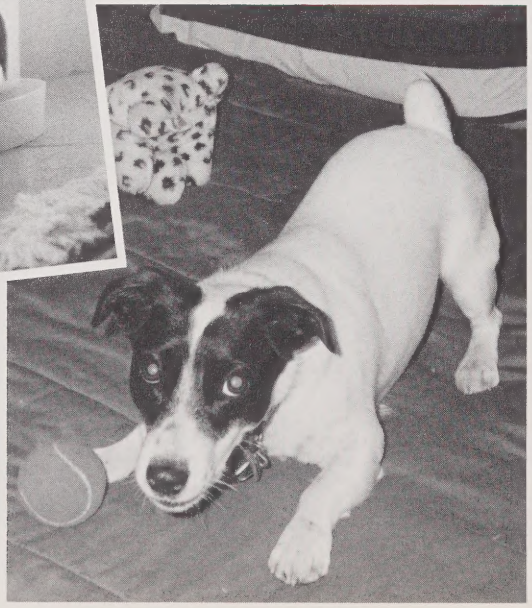

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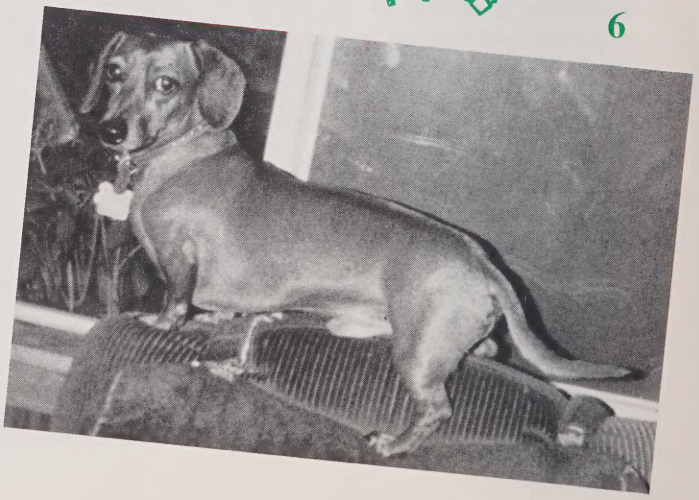


6

1 Lisa Kearney of Allston catches "Rudy" sneaking a nap, a favorite pastime. "Rudy snuck under the blanket on the couch when nobody was looking," she writes. "When I walked into the room she couldn't get down fast enough, so she put her head down and closed her eyes pretending to be asleep, hoping that I wouldn't notice her."

2 "Cybele" enjoys her special cat blanket, and her window perch, writes owner Jo Ann Fitzpatrick of Hingham: "She gets to see all the birds and other animals in Hingham, without ever going outdoors!"

3 Here's "Eli," adopted this fall by Susan Moore of Medford. "He's real happy in his new home, and we love him dearly," she writes.

4 "Zachary" investigates his new home with Elaine and Wayne Robbins of Arlington. "He is a very friendly and playful cat. We love him very much, and want to thank you for all of the hard work that you do for the animals in the Boston area," they write.

5 Jeff Mello of Jamaica Plain shares this photo of "Winston" at bat. Adopted from the League's Brewster shelter a year ago, "he has brought more joy into my family's life than we ever could have imagined. He really gives new meaning to the adage 'man's best friend,'" his owner writes.

6 "Cinnamon Dandy," a former stray adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Owens of Brewster, "has taken over our household, and is also a wonderful traveler in our van," according to Mrs. Owens. "I am blessed with our little 'Dandy.' He is a real pet!"

Love comes in all colors and sizes...

...at the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

Give the gift of love to someone special this year...a present that won't be too big or too small, too dull or too daring, and will never have to be exchanged after the holidays. With a pet adoption gift certificate from the Animal Rescue League of Boston, they can pick out the pet of their choice—a gift that will bring enjoyment for many years to come—at any of the League's four conveniently-located adoption shelters.

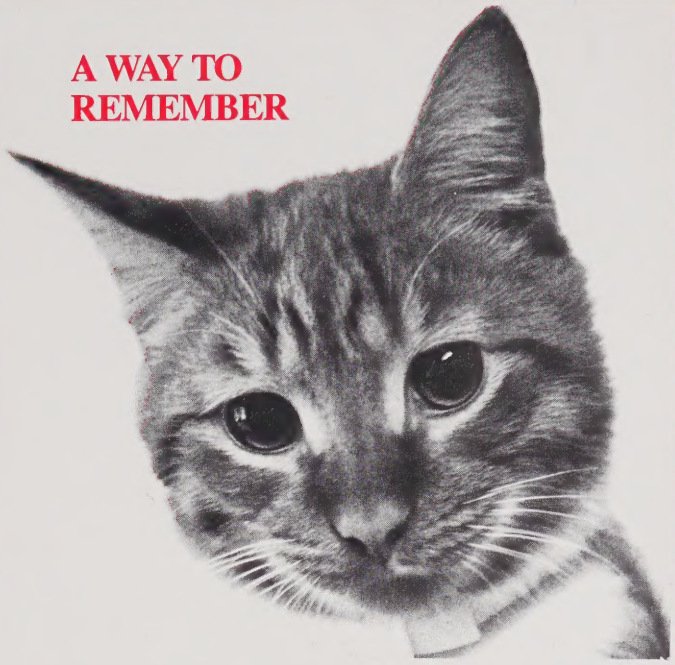
A gift certificate for a puppy or kitten, older dog or cat, hamster, gerbil, or even a rabbit can be ordered by telephone, and charged to your credit card.

Animal Rescue League of Boston 10 Chandler St. • (617) 426-9170

Branches: **Dedham** (617) 326-0729 **Salem** (508) 744-7910 **E. Brewster** (508) 255-1030

A non-profit humane society helping animals since 1899.

A WAY TO REMEMBER



The League continues to rely on the generosity of its friends to meet the ever-expanding needs of our animal population. The cruel realism of inflation makes the League's task in providing needed services more difficult than ever, but with continued support, the challenge can and will be met.

In making a bequest to the League in your Will, please remember that the corporate title of our society is **"Animal Rescue League of Boston,"** that it was incorporated in 1899, and has no connection with any other similar society.

Form of Bequest

I give to the Animal Rescue League of Boston the sum of _____ dollars.

Animal Rescue League of Boston
10 Chandler Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

FOR HOLIDAY GIVING

NEW ARL TOTE BAG

Be a conscientious consumer and carry your purchases in this rugged white cotton duck tote bag, roomy (17″ × 11½″) with royal blue handles and League logo. Priced at $12, plus $3 for shipping and handling. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

ORDER FORM:

Please send me _____ shopping totes at $12 each, plus $3 shipping and handling.

Name _____

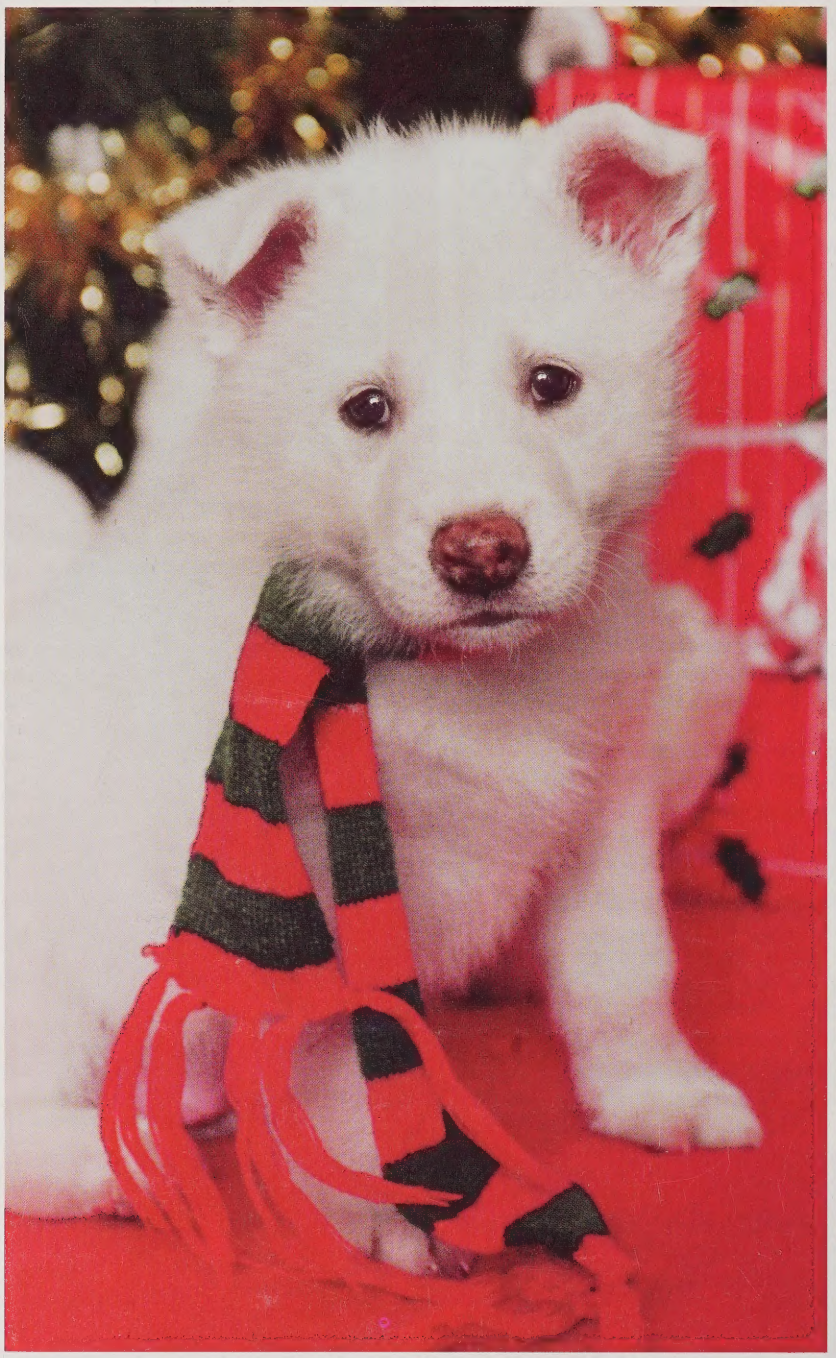
Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is my check in the amount of $ _____ made payable to the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

Mail to:
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265
Boston, MA 02117



". . . and to all, a good night!" *Photo by Karen M. Kramich of Saugus.*

Our Fourfooted Friends (US ISSN 0030-6851)
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED